

COUNTRY GREW TO BE WORLD POWER

United States Did Not Seek Its Broad Influence.

CHOSE TO BE KINDLY GIANT

Wanted Only Peace and to Be Permitted a Fair Market—Hohenzollerns' Greed Has Proved Their Undoing.

(From the Committee on Public Information, Washington, D. C.)

By ELLIS PARKER BUTLER.

Every person of middle age, and those who have studied the matter even slightly of whatever age, cannot but be aware with what extreme reluctance the United States took its place as a "world power." Our whole instinct has been against becoming anything of the sort. We had no desire to meddle in the affairs of the world across the Atlantic. We had been urged by the founders of our nation to avoid foreign alliances—"entangling" ones were specified, but all foreign alliances are "entangling," or they are not alliances—and the advice lingered in our minds. Added to this was the fact that we were sufficient unto ourselves. We had abundant land, abundant food, and were able to consume more manufactured articles than we could produce. From the first the intent of the United States was to live quietly at home, attending to our own affairs, and pursuing happiness in our own way without bothering our neighbors. I might say that the United States, from the beginning, resolved to settle down to a quiet family life.

I am not an old man, but I can remember when it was first printed, with something like awe, in our newspapers, that we were growing at such a rate commercially and in population that we were actually becoming a world power. It was a new thing, a new thought. It was not unlike hearing that Johnny had got his first long pants when we had hardly thought of Johnny as anything but a small boy. The United States did not seek to be a world power; it simply grew to be one, as Johnny grows from boyhood to manhood. There was no intention, but it was inevitable. A nation with so many people and such industrious people, shipping goods to all parts of the world, became a world power by the mere process of growth. We did not seek the status; it came to us.

Desired Only Peace.
When we discovered that we were a world power in spite of ourselves we tried to decide how we would behave in this new state of being. We might build ourself a great army, swagger around and issue ultimatums, combine with other world powers and bully the world, if we chose. No American can ever be made to believe we did this, because we did not. We chose to be a kindly giant, a benevolent world power. We wanted nothing but peace, here or elsewhere. We had grown to manhood and the world knew we were strong, but we wanted nothing but to be permitted to stay on the old farm, doing an honest day's work each day, attending to our own affairs in our own way. From the world we asked only that we be permitted a fair market in common with other nations, and a safe road to market.

In contrast with the manner in which the United States grew to world power I put Prussia. I say Prussia instead of Germany, because "Germany" outside of Prussia would never have thought of becoming a world power. "Germany," which was Bavaria and the many small states that Prussia hounded into the German empire, had no dreams of world powerfulness. Prussia had, Austria had, but the other Germanic states were quite satisfied to exist.

Instead of Prussia I ought, perhaps, to say Hohenzollern, and by that I mean the Hohenzollern family that practically owned Prussia, as you own a flock of sheep or a farm or a pocketknife. The Hohenzollern family had a mania, and that mania was power for Prussia. Prussia must be the most powerful German state; more powerful than Bavaria, than Baden, more powerful than Austria. This was the fixed idea in the back of every Hohenzollern head. It originated, no doubt, with Frederick the Great, who left when he died the dictum, "Every Hohenzollern king of Prussia should add at least one bit of territory to Prussia."

The Hohenzollern Dynasty.

It is only fair to the first emperor of Germany (William I) that if left alone he would have been satisfied with the addition of Schleswig-Holstein, which he grabbed from Denmark. He was then only king of Prussia and he had done his share. He had added his bit. There was, however, Bismarck.

Bismarck, even before he came into power in Prussia, had planned Prussia's future. First, Prussia must be the supreme power in Germany, then Germany must be the supreme power in the world. That was his life work; it was what Prussia pledged him she would do. And to Bismarck Prussia meant the Hohenzollern dynasty.

With malice aforethought, with lies and trickery assisting his wonderful statecraft, with a war against Austria and a war against France as part of his plan for making Hohenzollernism a world power, Bismarck labored and

won. He piled Bavaria and the lesser German states together, placed Prussia on top of them, and held the Hohenzollerns on the top of the whole pile. By show of armed strength (in which the war against Austria and the war against France were planned as exhibitions) he forced Hohenzollern into world powerfulness. Long before he died he planned another war against France as another exhibition of German strength. A reason for the new war? He had the same reason that a slave driver has when he drags an innocent black before the assembled slaves and beats her until she faints. Hohenzollernism must, every so often, show its power. The world must be kept cowed.

The Difference.

So you see how two nations have reached world power—the United States and the imperial Hohenzollern Germany. We grew; imperial Germany planned and schemed and forged bayonets. We are a world power because we are great in size and strength; Germany was a world power because she was a theater of murder. She was a world power because she carried at all times a bludgeon. Imperial - Prussian - Hohenzollern-Germany was a structure of bayonets; it existed, as Bismarck would brutal, admit were he alive today, for the honor and glory of the Hohenzollerns, and for no other reason. It was to prove that Wilhelm Hohenzollern, king of Prussia, was a world power that Germany was driven into the war we are now fighting, and not to prove that Germany was a world power.

Germany has paid a dear price for Hohenzollernism of the Wilhelm II variety. The world has paid a frightful price.

Germany without the Hohenzollerns would be a great nation and a true world power. As it is, she is a bleeding, wounded, hungered tool. She is being used by a Hohenzollern to prove that a Hohenzollern king of Prussia can do what he pleases with Prussian slaves and the slaves of Prussia. This is a Hohenzollern war. It was planned by Hohenzollerns to keep the Hohenzollerns of Prussia firmly seated on the throne, and for no other reason.

Well, Where Does It?

W. R. Secker, manager of the Lincoln hotel, says often he is regarded as a regular bureau of information, and like most hotel men is supposed to be a walking encyclopedia.

Secker's son William often wishes to know the "whys" and "wherefores" of some almost unanswerable matters.

"While putting Billie to bed the other night and on leaving the room, I switched out the light," he said. "Billie called me back saying: 'Daddy, turn on the lights again.' I obliged; then he asked me to turn out the light."

"Then like a bolt out of a clear sky Billie queried: 'Daddy, where does the light go when you turn it out?'" According to Secker, the best he could do in the emergency was to say that Billie's mother would explain it all in the morning.—Indianapolis News.

Eugenics and English Science.

Eugenics may be described as the study of agencies that may improve or impair the racial qualities of future generations, either physically or mentally, the declared aim being the betterment of the human race. The science was founded by Sir Francis Galton (1822-1911), a famous English statistician, anthropologist, and traveler. He distinguished himself by his remarkable work in anthropometry or measurements of the human body. For some years he conducted a system of anthropometrical records at South Kensington Museum, London, compiled from measurements taken from visitors to the museum. He founded the study of eugenics at University college, London.

Has Floats Like Footballs.

One of the newest types of life preservers consists of a belt to which are attached two or three inflatable units shaped like footballs. Each has a casing of properly reinforced duck, and is lined with a rubber bladder having a valve at one end for inflating it. The preserver weighs only about one and one-fourth pounds and when deflated can be carried in the pocket. Equipped with two bags, it has sufficient buoyancy for use in swimming, while the three-bag life preserver will sustain a person weighing 250 pounds in the water.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Dialects in British Isles.

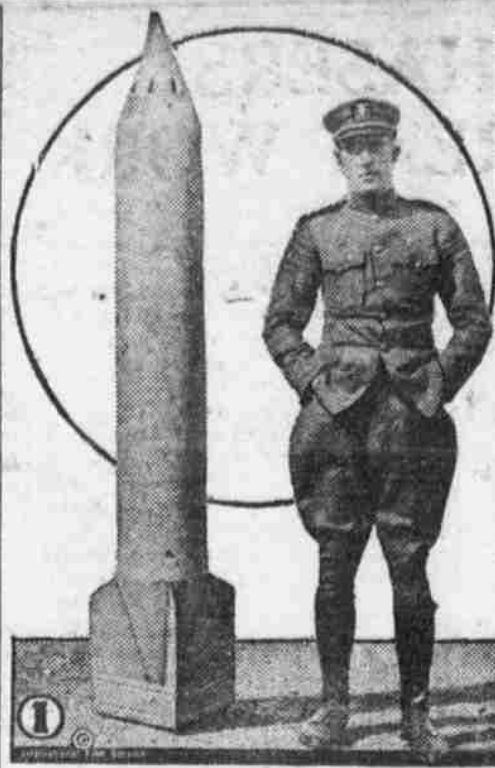
Several languages and many dialects are spoken in the British Isles. In Northern Scotland most of the people speak Gaelic, as they once did in Ireland, where the Gaelic language has been undergoing a revival in recent years. The Welsh have a distinct language of their own which is of Celtic origin. The Cornish people until far into the eighteenth century spoke a Celtic language very similar to that spoken by the people of Brittany in France. Nearly every shire of England has its peculiar dialect.

Pretty Tall.

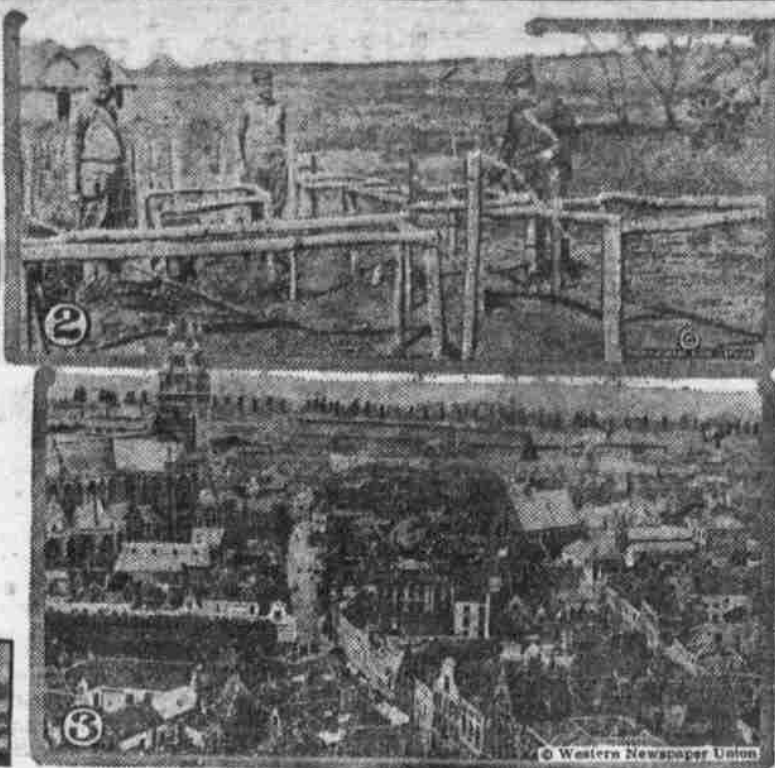
A private in an Irish regiment and a life guardsman were "blowing" about the standard of height in their respective regiments.

"Why," said the life guardsman, "one of our fellows is so tall that he can light his pipe at a lamp post."

"Be jabbers," retorted Pat. "Blaspheming of D company, is so tall that the beggar has to get down on his knees when he wants to put his hands in his trousers pockets."—Tit-Bits.



1—Aerial torpedo, weighing 250 pounds, used on the U-type dirigible of the American navy. 2—Graves of some of the American soldiers who fell in the victorious fight in the St. Mihiel salient. 3—General view of Bruges, recaptured from the Huns and established as the capital of Belgium.



2—Graves of some of the American soldiers who fell in the victorious fight in the St. Mihiel salient. 3—General view of Bruges, recaptured from the Huns and established as the capital of Belgium.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

President Wilson Tells Germany That No Peace Will Be Made With the Kaiser.

Views of His Reply Vary

Breaking Up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire Seems an Assured Fact—Huns Continue Retreat From Belgium—Yanks in Fierce Fighting Northwest of Verdun.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

We are willing to evacuate occupied territories and arrange an armistice based on the actual standard of power on both sides in the field. Our land and sea forces have not been guilty of illegal and inhuman actions, and we have ordered them not to commit any more such actions. The German government is now free from any arbitrary and irresponsible influence and is supported by the approval of an overwhelming majority of the German people.—Germany's Note to President Wilson.

Considering the assurances given by the German government, I cannot decline to suggest to the allied governments the consideration of an armistice, which, however, must leave the United States and its allies in a position to enforce the arrangements made and to make impossible a renewal of hostilities by Germany. It appears to me that the Kaiser and his crew still are in unimpaired control of the empire, and if we must deal with them, now or later, we must demand, not peace negotiations, but surrender.—President Wilson's reply to Germany.

The above summarizes briefly but fairly the diplomatic exchanges of the week between Berlin and Washington. Germany's note, evasive, shuffling and altogether unsatisfactory, was received with contempt by the press and people of the United States and the allied countries. The president and his close advisers, it was said, were pleased only with the indication that Berlin was moving step by step toward full acceptance of the allies' terms for an armistice and peace. The imperial government's indignant denial that its land and sea forces have committed outrages was looked on generally as an insult to the intelligence of a world that knows such outrages have been committed and have not yet ceased.

Even while protesting against the charges, the note says orders have been issued to discontinue the inhuman practices alleged by President Wilson as his former note; and the Huns who are being driven from Belgium and northern France have not stopped the ruthless pillaging and burning of the places they are forced to evacuate, save in a few instances. If the orders to observe the rules of civilized warfare have been issued, then there is an end of the contention of the defenders of the German people as distinguished from the German autocratic government, namely, that the troops commit outrages only under the orders of the military command. No observing person can longer doubt that we are at war not only with the German government, but with an inconsiderable part of the German people. It may be that the Germans will overthrow the Hohenzollerns and all their gang, but if so, it will be not because of the monstrous crime they have committed, but because they have failed of their criminal purpose. There is not in all Germany one sign of repentance. There is only furious disappointment because the leaders have not been able to "make good."

It cannot be said truthfully that President Wilson's reply to Berlin aroused any wild enthusiasm. Most of us felt as did Senator Ashurst of Arizona, who said: "I would have told Germany to go to hell." Less blunt criticism of the president felt that the only reply called for was a demand for

unconditional surrender and that Mr. Wilson was losing ground by continuing the diplomatic discussion with a government with which, he very properly declares, the United States cannot negotiate. There was general approval of the latter part of the note, which pronounced against any peace with the Kaiser, and the rest of it was praised by those who saw in it a clever move to alienate the German people from their military leaders. There was no doubt anywhere of the rightness of the president's aims and intentions, but many public men feared that his very admirable detestation of war and his fondness for writing notes might lead him into an embarrassing diplomatic maze.

In reassurance, it may be said that no armistice and no peace will be arranged that are not entirely to the satisfaction of Great Britain, France and Italy, as well as the United States, and that these four allies have agreed that Germany must be required to surrender. There will be no cessation of hostilities on the part of the allies until Germany not only evacuates occupied territory, but also gives substantial guarantees that will prevent resumption of fighting by her; and the entente allies are determined that any discussions concerning an armistice shall take into full consideration the sea power, in which they are predominant.

In his delayed reply to the note from Austria-Hungary President Wilson informed Vienna that events had made some of his famous fourteen points out of date, notably that concerning the autonomy of the oppressed peoples in the dual kingdom, since the United States had recognized the independence of the Czech-Slovaks and the national aspirations of the Jugo-Slavs. Consequently he could not talk peace with those points as a basis. Then followed an imperial manifesto announcing the formation of federal states in Austria-Hungary; the setting up of a state of their own by the Germans in Austria; the creation of a sovereign state by the Slovenes, Croats and Serbs without reference to present political frontiers, and progress by the Hungarians toward full independence, with reports that they were about to apply to the entente governments for terms for a separate armistice and peace. The empire of Charles was fast breaking up, and there was the greatest depression in Vienna, where famine threatened and the authorities are powerless. Consequently, according to dispatches, the Austrian government is becoming reconciled to the idea of unconditional capitulation.

Again, and yet again, the unduly optimistic must be reminded that, from a military point of view, Germany is still far from being defeated. Though she is being forced to relinquish her grip on Belgium and northern France, she is conducting her retreat in order and much in her own way, and though losing much material and thousands of men, is carrying off most of her heavy guns and a great deal of her supplies, destroying the bulk of those left behind. She still has about 100 divisions on the west front, 90 of them being in reserve, and with these, with the men returned from hospitals and with those coming of military age she probably can hold out for many months on her shortened front. The Huns are falling back to successive lines of defense, pivoting on the positions north of the Argonne and on the Meuse heights, and with many thousands of machine guns in strong positions are making the advance of the allies as difficult and expensive as possible. The present government of Germany seemingly doesn't intend to give up the fight without making a desperate finish, and toward the end of the week it was said Ludendorff had drafted a proclamation to the people exhorting them to carry on the war to the utmost, since the allies would not grant them peace without humiliation.

All week long the Germans continued their withdrawal from Belgium, sometimes moving rapidly, and at others putting up a stouter resistance in order to rescue some stores or guns. In being driven from the Belgian coast some 15,000 Huns were forced across the Holland border and were promptly interned by the Dutch. Haig's British forces, ably seconded by the Bel-

gians, the French and some American divisions, drove forward relentlessly and before the week closed were chasing the last of the Huns out of Valenciennes. To the south of that city, in the direction of Maubeuge and Mons, the British made a smashing attack, breaking through the enemy line of defense on a wide front and threatening to outflank the line of the Scheldt which, further north, had held up the progress of the allies to some extent. By cutting the banks of the Scheldt canal and other waterways the Germans flooded the country. The capture of Mons and Maubeuge would be serious to the Germans, for those cities, which are united by a railroad, have been the principal German concentration and supply points on the Ardennes front. East of Le Cateau, where the Americans are fighting beside the British, the allied progress was rather slow.

The fall of Ghent in the near future seeming a certainty, the Germans were evacuating it; and the Belgian government decided to establish itself in the recovered city of Bruges.

The French in the Laon region moved forward somewhat, but the advance there was slowed up considerably during the week. In the Champagne the Huns were keeping up the most determined kind of resistance, and the Americans in the valley of the Meuse were bearing the brunt of the severe fighting. It was the hardest kind of work, and at times the Yanks had to fall back, but always they returned to the combat and carried their objectives. Powerfully organized machine gun positions were encountered everywhere in that region of ravines and hills and forests, and to take these without too much loss it was necessary to maneuver past them and attack from the flanks and rear. Farther west, to the north of Grand Pre, the Americans were engaged in equally severe fighting, but there, too, they were slowly overcoming the stubborn resistance of the Huns. In this they were materially aided by the big bombing squadrons of the air forces which not only continually harassed the enemy in the fighting lines but made repeated raids on his bases and supply trains.

One-fourth of Germany's available military strength has been placed in the Champagne and Meuse sectors to hold back the Americans and French there, and the task these allied armies are doing, while not showy, is of tremendous importance and difficulty. The Huns are trying desperately to save the Metz-Luxemburg railway system, on which depend all their communications in that region. It is a satisfaction to know that the Americans are giving a mighty good account of themselves there and that, while their own losses are not small, those of the enemy are vastly larger.

In the near East matters progressed favorably, the allies driving the Austrians northward and reaching the Danube on the Romanian border, thus completing the isolation of Turkey from the central powers. A further advance to Orsova will open the way for an invasion of Austria. In Montenegro the process of clearing out the foe went forward rapidly. At Krushevat, in the center of Serbia, German forces were strongly resisting the advent of the Serbs toward Belgrade.

Turkey, which is more than ready to make peace, has a new scheme. Plans are being discussed to make Constantinople a free port and dismantle the fortifications of the Dardanelles on condition that the allies guarantee the continuance of Constantinople as the capital of Turkey. It is also proposed to grant autonomy to Arabia, Syria, Armenia and the Jewish part of Palestine.

The Germans seem to delight in violating the sense of decency of civilized people. The latest example of this propensity is the naming of Baron von der Lancken as head of a commission of neutral residents of Brussels which is to investigate charges of unnecessary devastation during the retreat from Belgium. This baron played a leading role in the murder of Edith Cavell, ignoring the representations of Brand Whitlock and refusing to save the nurse from death.

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Honesty or Fear—Which?

A fleeing thief threw away \$7,500 on Broadway, New York, the other day and the finder returned every cent of the money to the bank which had been robbed. Did the finder act through honesty or through fear that he couldn't make use of so large a sum without being caught? Some years ago a bank messenger lost, or claimed he lost, a \$10,000 bill on the street in the financial district. It was never discovered. Some have speculated as to what the finder or thief did with such an unwieldy piece of money.

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